

AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 12 and 13. Please amend claims 1, 3, 5 and 14; and add claims 18-23 as indicated in the complete listing of claims given below:

1. (currently amended) A glass composition comprising:
a germanium-silicon ~~oxide or~~ oxynitride having a Ge/(Si + Ge) mole ratio of from about 0.25 to about 0.47 and an N/(N + O) mole ratio of ~~0 to~~ less than about 0.1.
2. (original) The glass composition of claim 1, wherein the Ge/(Si + Ge) mole ratio is about 0.35 and the N/(N + O) mole ratio is about 0.05.
3. (currently amended) The glass composition of claim ~~1~~ 2 exhibiting a refractive index of from about 1.48 to about 1.52 at 1550 nm, and having a coefficient of thermal expansion at room temperature of from about $3 \times 10^{-6} \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$ to about $4.4 \times 10^{-6} \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$.
4. (original) The glass composition of claim 1 exhibiting a refractive index of from about 1.48 to about 1.52 at 1550 nm, and having a coefficient of thermal expansion at room temperature of from about $3 \times 10^{-6} \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$ to about $4.4 \times 10^{-6} \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$.
5. (currently amended) A planar optical device comprising:
a waveguide core and waveguide cladding, wherein at least one of the waveguide core and the waveguide cladding is a germanium-silicon ~~oxide or~~ oxynitride ~~material~~ glass having a Ge/(Si + Ge) mole ratio of from about 0.25 to about 0.47 and an N/(N + O) mole ratio of ~~from 0 to~~ less than about 0.1.
6. (original) The planar optical device of claim 5, wherein the Ge/(Si + Ge) mole ratio is about 0.35 and the N/(N + O) mole ratio is about 0.05.
7. (original) The planar optical device of claim 6, wherein the planar optical device is an optical switch having liquid crystal switches located at intersecting waveguides.
8. (original) The planar optical device of claim 7, wherein the planar optical device is a cross-connect optical switching device.

9. (original) A method of forming a planar optical device on a silicon substrate, wherein the device includes a waveguide having a refractive index of from about 1.48 to about 1.52 at 1550 nm, and a coefficient of thermal expansion of from about $3 \times 10^{-6} \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$ to about $4.4 \times 10^{-6} \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$, comprising:

depositing on a silicon substrate by plasma enhanced chemical vapor deposition a germanium-silicon oxide or oxynitride cladding layer having a Ge/(Si + Ge) mole ratio of from about 0.25 to about 0.47 and an N/(N + O) mole ratio of 0 to about 0.1;

depositing on the cladding layer by plasma enhanced chemical vapor deposition a germanium-silicon oxide or oxynitride core layer having a Ge/(Si + Ge) mole ratio of from about 0.25 to about 0.47 and an N/(N + O) mole ratio of 0 to about 0.1, wherein the refractive index of the core layer is higher than the refractive index of the cladding layer.

10. (original) The method of claim 9 further comprising annealing the cladding layer and the core layer to a temperature greater than 1,000 °C in an oxidizing atmosphere, and cooling the cladding layer and the core layer at a rate greater than 200 °C/hr to a temperature below the strain point of the glass.

11. (original) The method of claim 9 wherein the core layer and the cladding layer are deposited by exposing a substrate to a reaction gas mixture including a silicon precursor, a germanium precursor, a nitrogen source, and optionally including a carrier gas, wherein the plasma is formed by two electrodes driven by separate RF power supplies and a region of the chamber that is grounded, and wherein the substrate is placed on one of the electrodes that is driven with a RF power supply having a frequency less than 1 MHz, and the other electrode is driven with a RF power supply having a frequency greater than 1 MHz.

12. (canceled)

13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) A planar optical device comprising:

a waveguide core and waveguide cladding, wherein at least one of the waveguide core and the waveguide cladding is a silica-germania-titania glass having a Ge/(Si + Ge + Ti) mole ratio of from about 0.08 to about 0.17 and a Ti/(Si + Ge + Ti) mole ratio of ~~from 0 to~~ less than about 0.08.

15. (original) The planar optical device of claim 14, wherein the planar optical device is an optical switch having liquid crystal switches located at intersecting waveguides.

16. (original) The planar optical device of claim 15, wherein the planar optical device is a cross-connect optical switching device.

17. (original) A method of forming a planar optical device on a silicon substrate, comprising:

depositing on a silicon substrate by plasma enhanced chemical vapor deposition a silica-germania-titania cladding layer having a Ge/(Si + Ge + Ti) mole ratio of from about 0.08 to about 0.17 and a Ti/(Si + Ge + Ti) mole ratio of 0 to about 0.08; and

depositing on the cladding layer by plasma enhanced chemical vapor deposition a silica-germania-titania core layer having a Ge/(Si + Ge + Ti) mole ratio of from about 0.08 to about 0.17 and a Ti/(Si + Ge + Ti) mole ratio of from 0 to about 0.08, wherein the refractive index of the core layer is higher than the refractive index of the cladding layer,

wherein the device includes a waveguide having a refractive index of from about 1.48 to about 1.52 at 1550 nm and a coefficient of thermal expansion of from about $3 \times 10^{-6} \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$ to about $4.4 \times 10^{-6} \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$.

18. (new claim) The glass composition of claim 1, wherein the glass composition consists essentially of oxides and nitrides of silica and germania.

19. (new claim) The planar optical device of claim 5, wherein the germanium-silicon oxynitride glass consists essentially of oxides and nitrides of silica and germania.

20. (new claim) The planar optical device of claim 14 wherein the silica-germania-titania glass consists essentially of oxides of silicon, germanium and titanium.

21. (new claim) The planar optical device of claim 14 wherein the silica-germania-titania glass has a refractive index of from about 1.48 to about 1.52 at 1550 nm and a coefficient of thermal expansion at room temperature of from about $3 \times 10^{-6} \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$ to about $4.4 \times 10^{-6} \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$.

22. (new claim) A planar optical device comprising:

a waveguide including a waveguide core and waveguide cladding; and

a liquid crystal element coupled to the waveguide,

wherein at least one of the waveguide core and the waveguide cladding is:

Alt. cat. a germanium-silicon oxide or oxynitride material having a Ge/(Si + Ge) mole ratio of from about 0.25 to about 0.47 and an N/(N + O) mole ratio of from 0 to about 0.1; or

a silica-germania or silica-germania-titania glass and having a Ge/(Si + Ge + Ti) mole ratio of from about 0.08 to about 0.17 and a Ti/(Si + Ge + Ti) mole ratio of from 0 to about 0.08.

23. (new claim) The planar optical device of claim 19, wherein the germanium-silicon oxide or oxynitride material, or silica-germania or silica-germania-titania glass has a refractive index of from about 1.48 to about 1.52 at 1550 nm and a coefficient of thermal expansion at room temperature of from about $3 \times 10^{-6} \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$ to about $4.4 \times 10^{-6} \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$.
